



SHOWMASTER

- POWER FOCUS and ZOOM
- THRU-LENS METERING
and IMAGE FOCUS
- 5 to 1 ZOOM REFLEX
- INSTANT CARTRIDGE LOAD

argus
826

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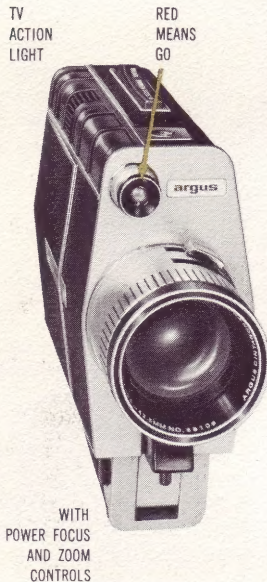
INTRODUCTION

Minor changes in the appearance
of your camera may not be
included in these illustrations.

With the purchase of the Argus Showmaster 826 Super Eight Movie camera you have joined an entirely new generation of movie makers who can enjoy professional results without any previous camera experience. Beautifully styled, your camera also represents the very latest in modern photographic technology. The 50% larger Super Eight film area produces movies that are clearer and brighter than ever.

The Super Eight Instant Load film system takes all the fuss and bother out of loading a movie camera. Each cartridge contains fifty feet of film that is pre-threaded for easy insertion into your 826 camera. There are no spools to fumble with, no winding, no half-way reloading, no fogging, no film speed dials to set or filters to install and remove. Automatic finger tip power controls start, zoom and even focus your camera.

Ultra-sensitive CdS electric eye measures light through the actual lens system and sets the exposure precisely for the actual area being photographed. The Argus 826 provides built-in confidence and a special kind of 8mm movie making pleasure that is really super.



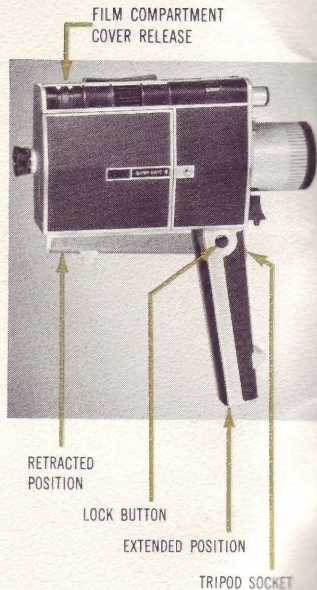
KNOW YOUR CAMERA

Understand every function by exposing and later analyzing the results of at least one roll of practice film. Your dealer will be glad to assist you if there are any further questions. The first time you take the camera out of its box, there are just three things to get ready before you start filming:

1. Install batteries to power your camera's electric drive.
2. Make certain CdS electric eye batteries are properly installed.
3. Insert an instant-loading film cartridge.

... and you are ready for the first scene. However, we suggest you read through all of these instructions before you load-up and start shooting.

After the batteries have been installed and the film cartridge is in place, setting the camera's Automatic-Manual Control to **AUTO** and unlocking the Trigger Release are all you ever have to do to get ready for filming! When you have exposed all of the film, open the camera, remove the cartridge and send it off for processing, insert another cartridge and continue shooting!



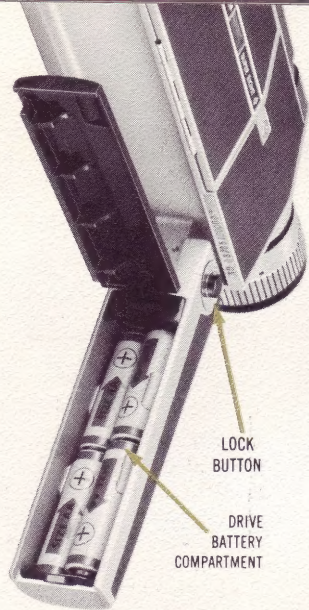
Now let's look closely at how all this automatic fun is built into your new camera . . .

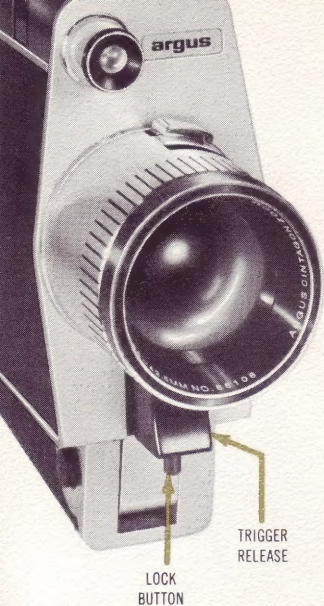
PISTOL GRIP

Your Showmaster 826 features a retractable PISTOL GRIP which folds back against the base of the camera for easy storage when not in use. To extend the grip, grasp the bottom of the camera in the cup of your right hand, depress the pistol grip LOCK BUTTON with your thumb and swing the grip down and forward until it locks. Reversing this procedure, (pressing the button and swinging the grip back and upwards) locks it against the bottom of the camera again. With this grip in the retracted position, the camera can be mounted on a tripod, using the TRIPOD SOCKET provided.

INSTALLING DRIVE BATTERIES

With the pistol grip extended, open the DRIVE BATTERY COMPARTMENT by lifting the back cover of the pistol grip at the tip end. Install four size "A" penlight alkaline batteries according to the positive-negative diagram inside the com-





partment (see illustration). These batteries supply power to run the camera's drive motor. Press the TRIGGER RELEASE briefly to see that power is being supplied properly. If motor does not run, check battery installation for correct position and contact. (Reversing the polarity position of the batteries will cause the camera mechanism and zoom lens drive to run backwards). For maximum power and longest life the MANGANESE-ALKALINE or MERCURY type 1½ volt batteries are recommended. These are available under brand names such as Eveready, Mallory, Burgess, Sears, etc. Rated high energy, these batteries will drive many film cartridges under normal conditions before replacement is needed. Standard CARBON ZINC "flashlight" batteries may be used but with considerably less life expectancy.

Extremely cold temperatures cause the batteries to lose power. It is advisable under these severe conditions to remove and keep batteries in a warm pocket before using.

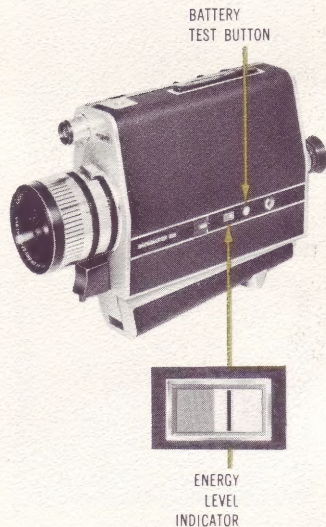
Always keep an extra set of batteries on hand for immediate replacement when use of the battery test button indicates signs of weakness.

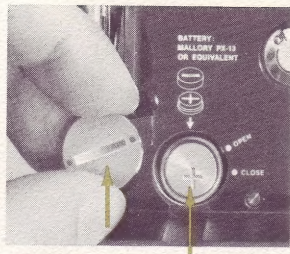
BATTERY TEST

When the batteries are first installed depress the BATTERY TEST button on the left side of the camera and note the position of the ENERGY LEVEL INDICATOR. If it appears anywhere in the white zone, the batteries are still good. If the indicator appears in the red zone, your batteries are too weak to operate the camera properly and may need replacement. Electrical efficiency can be restored sometimes by cleaning the battery contacts with a rough cloth or pencil eraser.

ELECTRIC-EYE BATTERY

Your camera is equipped with a cadmium-sulfide (CdS) electric eye and a battery-powered automatic exposure control system. Since it has its own power source, the system does not depend on converted light-energy to power the lens-setting mechanism. This enables you to keep on filming with automatic exposure control in low-light situations where ordinary automatic cameras cannot function. It also greatly extends the range of possible film speeds (from ASA 25 to ASA 250) which the automatic exposure system will accommodate.



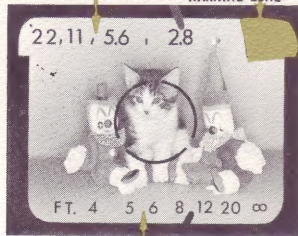


BATTERY COVER

BATTERY COMPARTMENT

LENS OPENING INDICATOR

WARNING ZONE

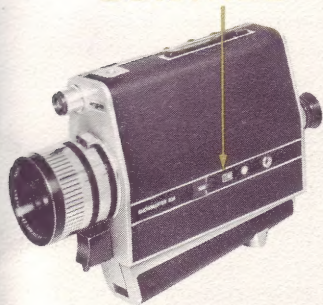


DISTANCE SCALE

The system is powered by two PX-13 1.35-volt mercury batteries. (The batteries are installed in your camera when you purchase it). To install new batteries, first press the FILM COMPARTMENT COVER RELEASE to the rear to open the cover. The electric-eye BATTERY COMPARTMENT is located on the inner wall of the camera body. Press the BATTERY COVER slightly inward and turn to the OPEN position, indicated by the dot, and lift it up and out. Insert the batteries in the compartment **with both positive (+) sides facing up**. Replace the cover by reversing the removal procedure, placing the dot on the cover opposite OPEN and pressing in slightly while turning to CLOSE.

Instead of weakening slowly, these batteries generally fail almost immediately when they become exhausted. **To check their condition**, look through the DataScope viewfinder while the camera is pointed toward any brightly lighted scene. (Be sure the camera is set on AUTO). If the batteries are still good, the electric-eye mechanism responds rapidly, showing a movement of the LENS-OPENING INDICATOR with every light change.

AUTOMATIC -MANUAL CONTROL



If the batteries are exhausted, the indicator will not move off of the red zone, and fresh batteries should be installed. Your Argus dealer can supply you with the proper replacement type (MALLORY PX-13, EVEREADY EPX-13, BURGESS HPX-13, or equivalent). The electric-eye exposure control takes power from the batteries and instantly sets the lens for the correct exposure.

... located on the left side of the camera, must be set to AUTO whenever you want to use the automatic exposure control system. When set on AUTO, the camera's lens opening will automatically increase and decrease, while you are filming, continually adjusting for correct exposure in all suitable light conditions. "Suitable" conditions exist whenever the lens-opening indicator swings out of the red warning zone into the clear area marked with lens-opening numbers in the DataScope viewfinder. If the indicator stays in the red zone, there is insufficient light for correct exposure and you should stop filming.

The lens opening being set by the electric-eye (f/1.8 to f/22) is always visible in the DataScope viewfinder when the control is on **AUTO**.

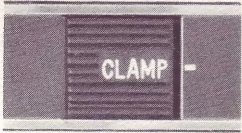
TURN UP TO AUTO . . .



TURN DOWN FOR MANUAL



AND CLAMP.



You can use this feature as a light meter to determine the proper lens setting for unusual conditions where the electric-eye may provide an undesirable exposure. For instance, if your principal subject is an extremely dark one and in an extremely light background, or if your subject is strongly backlighted, you may elect to use a manual setting.

With the automatic-manual control set on AUTO, hold the camera aimed at your subject at close range (so as to exclude the contrasting background from view) and note the lens-opening setting in the viewfinder. Then return to your shooting position and move the control toward MANUAL until the desired setting is "fixed" in the viewfinder. Now shoot the scene at this MANUAL setting.

Be sure to return the control to AUTO when you want to resume automatic exposure. Moving the dial off AUTO, through MANUAL, until the word CLAMP appears (as far as it will turn) locks the delicate electric-eye mechanism.

The control should be set on CLAMP whenever the camera is stored or shipped for any reason.

Remember, whenever you want automatically exposed film, you must keep this control set on AUTO. Check frequently to see that it has not been unintentionally moved between scenes, and be alert for free movement of the lens-opening indicator in the clear zone of the viewfinder indicating good exposure.

SHOOTING

There are three ways to operate the camera: (1) with the TRIGGER RELEASE for normal filming with camera handheld; (2) with the REMOTE CONTROL CORD for filming with camera on a tripod; (3) with a CABLE RELEASE for single-frame filming. When the TRIGGER RELEASE is pulled back the ACTION LIGHT glows RED indicating film is advancing and subject is on camera. To lock the trigger release on RUN, move the LOCK BUTTON to LOCK while the release is fully depressed. To stop the camera, move the lock button to UN-LOCK and let the release return forward. You can also use this feature as a safety lock on the release in its forward



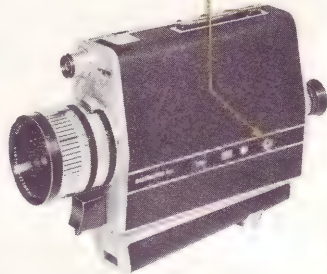
position to prevent running the camera accidentally whenever it is left unattended.

Follow this procedure to use the 15' electrical remote control cord with your camera:

1. With remote control switch OFF, plug cord into remote control socket on camera.
2. Press trigger release in and lock it on Continuous Run.
3. Turn remote control switch to ON to take movies. Before unplugging remote control cord from socket, unlock trigger release from Continuous Run position.

A cable release (available from your Argus dealer) can be attached in the CABLE RELEASE SOCKET provided on the right side of the camera. Any ASA American-thread cable release will fit. The cable release, when depressed, starts the camera's drive motor and permits a single frame at a time to be exposed for making titles, animated sequences, or time-lapse movies. When control is on AUTO the electric eye automatically sets itself as it does when taking continuous movies.

REMOTE CONTROL SOCKET

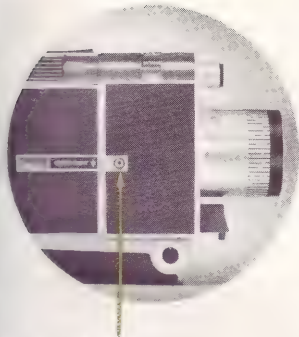


NOTE: The shutter is activated to expose only one frame each time you depress and release the cable plunger. Eighteen single frame exposures constitute one second of viewing time. Example: A five second scene requires 90 single frame exposures. Always use a tripod for single frame or remote control movie projects.

INSERTING THE FILM CARTRIDGE

The remarkable Super 8 cartridge is the key to all of the effortless, trouble-free, no-worry features which Argus has built into your camera. It contains a continuous 50-foot run of film. The film is already threaded in its own transport system, with position guides, pressure pad, and take-up sprocket built into the cartridge. A tiny portion of film is exposed at the front edge of the cartridge, ready to engage **automatically** with your camera's drive and shutter mechanism.

All of the usual spools, film gates, guide spindles, pressure pads, threading diagrams, loose ends, and slack, which used

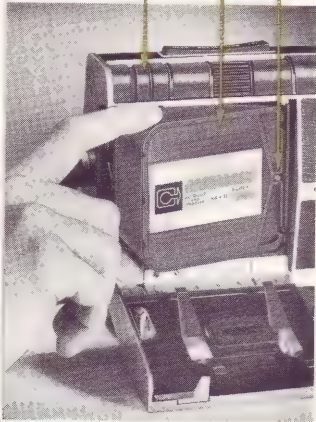


CABLE RELEASE SOCKET
FOR SINGLE FRAMES ONLY

FILM COMPARTMENT
COVER RELEASE

CARTRIDGE

LOCATING
PIN



to complicate home movie making are eliminated. Instead, you simply open the camera by pressing the COVER RELEASE toward the rear, place the cartridge in position at the LOCATING PIN, label-side up, press it down, and close the cover. That's all! You're ready to shoot after only a one-second press of the trigger to take up the exposed leader.

In this simple insertion procedure, several vital settings are automatically made in your camera without your touching a single lever or dial.

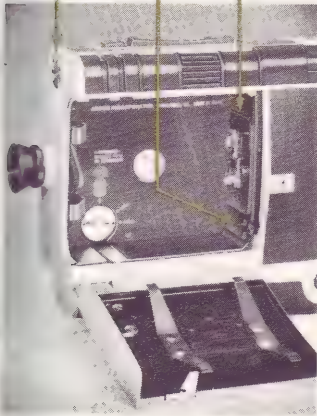
1. The camera's FOOTAGE COUNTER is automatically reset to **50** and will indicate the number of feet remaining to be exposed in the cartridge. When the counter reaches **0**, stop taking pictures, but continue to run the camera for a few seconds to wind the film through the cartridge to the end. (The motor will seem to speed-up slightly when the end of film indicator becomes visible in the viewfinder).

2. The FILM SPEED for the type of film in your cartridge is automatically set in your camera's electric-eye exposure system as soon as you close the cover. A special FILM SPEED SENSOR, built into the camera, detects the length of a

FOOTAGE COUNTER

FILTER SENSOR

FILM SPEED SENSOR



notch in your film cartridge which varies according to the speed of the film. The notch length (short for slow films, longer for faster films) determines the electric-eye adjustment for automatically controlled, perfect exposure. You not only don't have to worry about "setting" the camera, you needn't even be aware of it!

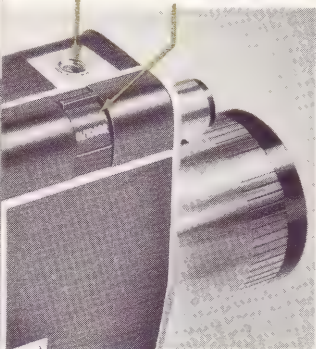
3. A TYPE-A-FILTER will either be in position or removed from position inside your camera **automatically** as soon as you insert the cartridge. A special FILTER SENSOR, built into your camera, detects the presence or absence of another notch in the edge of the film cartridge depending on whether your film is for daylight or for artificial light. Daylight film cartridges will have **no** notch, and the sensor will be depressed as the cartridge is inserted, displacing the filter.

Type-A film cartridges **will** be notched, allowing the sensor to remain extended, keeping the filter in place-compensating for daylight exposure of what is really "indoor" film.

However, as soon as you attach your movie light to the socket on top of your camera, another built-in sensor automatically

FILTER SENSOR IN
MOVIE LIGHT SOCKET

MANUAL FILTER CONTROL



displaces the filter, no longer needed for Type-A film exposed by artificial light. In this way, Type-A film can be used indoors with movie lights, or outdoors in daylight, with color compensation automatically provided.

NOTE: A MANUAL FILTER CONTROL, located on the top edge of the camera near the front, is provided for displacing the filter for INDOOR light conditions with Type-A film when using a **bottom-mounting** movie light, or when filming with other types of artificial light without a movie light. The manual filter control is inoperative when using daylight-type color film or when a top-mounting movie light is in place. Be sure to keep the manual filter control set to OUTDOOR whenever you expose Type-A film in daylight. A portion of the cartridge label showing the type of film in the camera is visible through the window of the film compartment cover.

POWER FOCUS LOCK

EYEPIECE LOCK

REAR EYEPIECE



GO SIGNAL



Action light Flickers when film is advancing properly.

Absence of flicker indicates that film is not advancing or film has reached the end.

POWER FOCUS

Before using the zoom lens adjust the REAR EYEPIECE to match your individual eyesight. First zoom the lens to TELE, then POWER FOCUS to infinity. Sight a distant subject and rotate the REAR EYEPIECE until the viewfinder FOCUS CIRCLE and DataScope pointer are equally distinct. Tighten this custom setting by rotating the knurled EYEPIECE LOCK clockwise.

Zoom lens must then be POWER FOCUSED to an estimated distance indicated along the bottom of the DataScope scale or by observing the left side of the zoom lens barrel. POWER FOCUS image sharpness can also be determined by concentrating on the area within the FOCUS CIRCLE in the TELE position. Focus distance setting can be locked or unlocked simply by sliding the POWER FOCUS LOCK forward or back.

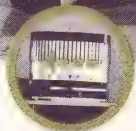
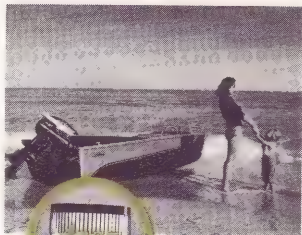
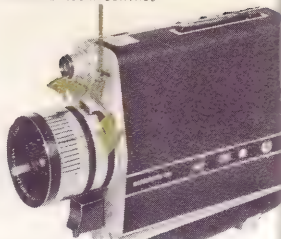
VIEWING AND ZOOMING

Your camera's zoom lens is a single lens which does the work of several. Your scenes can be framed as though you had

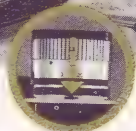
backed away from your subject, or as though you had moved in for a close-up—all without your taking a single step. The zooming effect is always visible in the viewfinder (as shown in the illustrations for different lens positions).

To preview the best lens position for your scene before you begin filming, move the **MANUAL ZOOM CONTROL** from wide angle (WIDE) to telephoto (TELE) and back, until you see the desired field coverage in the viewfinder. Lens may also be zoomed with power by pressing only the telephoto or wide angle zoom button depending on direction of lens movement desired.

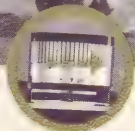
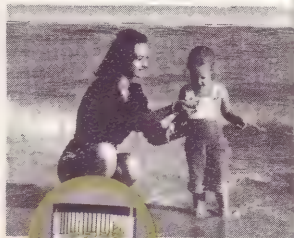
MANUAL ZOOM CONTROL



WIDE ANGLE



NORMAL



TELEPHOTO

Your camera's electric zoom controls operate independently or while the trigger release is pressed and the motor is running. Hold the camera with your left hand over the top and fingers placed on each side of the electric controls. While filming, squeeze the WIDE button inward to shift the lens to wide angle; squeeze the TELE button to shift the lens to telephoto.

Before you begin a "zoom scene," be sure the lens is pre-set to the position **from** which you intend to begin the zoom action.

SLOW MOTION

The center button (SLOW) operates **only** while the trigger release is depressed and the camera is running, and changes the camera's filming speed to provide slow-motion movies. The button is marked with ridges to enable you to "feel" it with your finger tip and avoid pressing it accidentally when you mean to use one of the zoom controls.

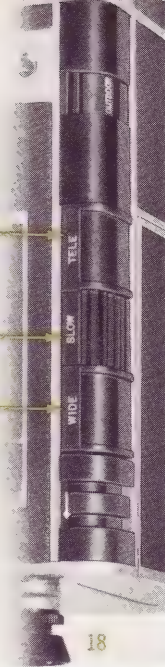
When you wish to record the action in slow motion, simply squeeze in the SLOW button while filming. The camera's speed will increase, photographing the scene on almost twice the normal length of film. When the processed film is pro-

ELECTRIC
CONTROLS:

TELEPHOTO
ZOOM

SLOW
MOTION

WIDE ANGLE
ZOOM



TIPS FOR BETTER MOVIES

jected at normal speed, (18 fps), the action will then appear slowed down.

Always hold the camera as steady as possible when taking movies. Any slight wavering of the camera will be very obvious when your movies are projected. Use a tripod when possible.

Take pictures with the sun behind you whenever possible. The electric eye can "read" the scene and set the lens more accurately if this rule is followed.

"Panning" is the term used when the camera is moved horizontally or vertically when making movies. This should be done slowly and carefully to avoid unwanted effects such as jerking movements and blurring of the picture. When panning scenic pictures, filming in slow motion will greatly improve the smoothness of the projected pictures.

Plan your movies in advance to add a feeling of continuity to them. Try filming your movies in a story sequence instead of a series of unrelated scenes.



CARE AND CLEANING

Time your scenes so that they are at least five or six seconds in length. Scenes can always be cut when editing.

When taking movies indoors with a movie light, be sure your subject is closer to the back-ground than to the camera to assure even lighting.

Your Argus Showmaster 826 is a fine precision instrument and deserves the best care. Protect it from jarring or vibration and from extremes of heat, moisture, and dust. Keep the automatic manual control set on CLAMP and your camera in the carrying case when not in use.

Clean out the film compartment of your camera occasionally with a small camel's hair brush. Be sure to brush away any dirt or particles that may be in the film gate or they may show up in your movies. Do not attempt to remove or oil any part of your camera

To clean the front of the camera lens, blow the dust off first, then use a camel's hair brush or lens tissue. Use lens cleaning fluid sparingly and only if it becomes necessary. Lens cleaning materials are available from your Argus dealer.

MODEL 826 SPECIFICATIONS

LENS: f/1.8 Cintagon Zoom, 8.7mm to 43.5mm focal length range (5 ratio); full focusing 4 ft. to infinity.

EXPOSURE-CONTROL SYSTEM: CdS-cell electric eye operating through the lens powered by 2 PX-13 1.35 volt mercury batteries; automatic lens-opening adjustments from f/1.8 to f/22; manual control provided; automatic compensation for film speed and built-in filter.

FILMING SPEEDS: 18 frames per second (normal); 32 frames per second (slow motion); single frame release (for accessory cable) provided.

DATASCOPE VIEWFINDER: Reflex (through-the-lens) type; indicators in viewfinder show lens opening setting (automatic and manual), low-light warning signal, lens focus setting and end of film run.

FILM LOADING: Super 8 Instant Cartridge.

FILM SPEED: ASA 25 to 250.

FILTER SYSTEM: Built-in Type-A filter; automatically positioned by cartridge and movie-light mounting screw; manual control provided.

FILM DRIVE: Electric; powered by 4 size AA alkaline penlight batteries; continuous-run lock, remote-control cord socket, cable-release socket, and battery test provided. ACTION LIGHT glows whenever camera is filming.

ZOOM CONTROL: Electric and manual.

FOCUS CONTROL: Electric.

There are occasions when you may wish to loan your camera to an individual who has never taken movies. Good results at average light conditions can be obtained by lining up 5 GREEN settings.

WIDE ANGLE ZOOM BUTTON — GREEN

WIDE ANGLE ON LENS — GREEN

AUTO-MANUAL KNOB — GREEN

20' UNIVERSAL SETTING — GREEN

OUTDOOR SETTING — GREEN

Sight and shoot with a positive squeeze of the TRIGGER RELEASE.

Note: EYESIGHT ADJUSTMENT may be necessary when camera is used by another person.

UNCONDITIONAL GUARANTEE

Your Argus product is unconditionally guaranteed to function for a period of one year from the date of original purchase. If during this period, your product fails to operate for any reason, Argus Incorporated will restore it to normal operating condition at no charge. This guarantee applies to the product itself. We regret that we are unable to assume liability for loss of film or for any other expense.

This guarantee is valid only for the original retail purchaser and only if the product is returned prepaid directly or through an Argus dealer, to an Argus Service Company location, or one of its Authorized Service Stations. The date and place of original purchase must be included, along with a description of the difficulties encountered. For the address of the nearest service location contact your Argus dealer or write to the main office of the Argus Service Company.

Many apparent product difficulties are actually a matter of incorrect usage. It is always wise to see your Argus dealer before returning the product for servicing.

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Litho in U.S.A.